UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/206
6 March 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 3 March 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and of the annex hereto circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative

98-05690 (E) 060398 060398

/...

Annex

[Original: French and English]

Statement issued on 3 March 1998 by the Presidency of the European Union on Iraq

1. The European Union welcomes the unanimous adoption of Security Council resolution 1154 (1998) on 2 March 1998.

2. This resolution commends the initiative by the Secretary-General to secure commitments from the Government of Iraq on compliance with its obligations under the relevant resolutions and endorses the memorandum of understanding signed by the Deputy Prime Minister of Iraq and the Secretary-General on 23 February 1998.

3. The European Union calls on the Iraqi authorities to comply fully with the memorandum of understanding and with the relevant Security Council resolutions.

4. The European Union notes that under the terms of resolution 1154 (1998) any violation by Iraq of its obligations would have severest consequences. On the other hand, compliance by Iraq with its obligations, repeated in the memorandum of understanding, to accord immediate, unconditional and unrestricted access to the Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency would allow the Security Council to act in accordance with the relevant provisions of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 on the lifting of sanctions. The European Union notes that, in accordance with its responsibility under the Charter, the Security Council will remain actively seized of the matter, in order to ensure the implementation of this resolution and to secure peace and security in the area.

5. The European Union meanwhile remains determined to ensure that the arrangements for bringing increased humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people under Security Council resolution 1153 (1998) of 20 February 1998 are fully and effectively implemented.